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Baroness Brady  
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Dear Karren

I am writing to follow up on the question you raised during the sixth Committee Stage debate on 18 December of the Football Governance Bill. You sought clarification on whether the letter sent by the seven clubs following the meeting with the Secretary of State on 9 October was responded to. To confirm, the issues in the letter have been acknowledged and addressed, and we believe our position on the issues raised has been made clear.

On behalf of the Secretary of State, I would like to once again thank the seven clubs for writing to the Department. During the meeting held with Premier League Clubs on 23 October (the day before the Bill's introduction), the Secretary of State explicitly referenced the letter in question, and our position on the points raised within it was made clear in discussions.

Subsequently, in the Secretary of State's separate letters to Richard Masters and all Premier League club executives, sent on 25 October, the clubs' correspondence was again highlighted and our position on the issues were made clear. On 28 October, the clubs also received a Regime Summary and Bill changes policy document, which further clarified our position on the issues that had been raised in the letter.

As expressed on the floor of the house, this is not the end of the engagement process. In addition to the extensive previous and ongoing consultation by the Department, there are still a considerable number of opportunities for clubs to have their say as the legislation passes through Parliament and as work continues to establish the Independent Football Regulator (IFR). Even once the IFR is established its approach will be advocacy-first: aiming to work constructively with clubs on an ongoing basis.

I thank you again for raising this issue, and I hope my response has given some clarity on this.

With best wishes,

Baroness Twycross  
**Minister for Gambling**

